

City of Milwaukee Health Assessment Questions



Dynacare Lab Work:

Q: What if I forgot to fast for my lab work?

A: You will be asked to return to the lab another time after you have completed the required 12-hour fast.

Q: What is in the lab panel?

A: Albumin, Alkaline Phosphase, ALT, Bilirubin, BUN, Creatinine, Calcium, Cholesterol, LDL, HDL, Glucose, CBC- complete blood count, Cotinine, TSH, T4 Free, Triglycerides. Lab Panel is available to view on COM website.

Q: What if I had a physical or previous lab work?

A: The Labor Management Committee has determined that all participants need to go through Dynacare for their lab work. This will provide a consistent, baseline measurement for all 10,000 employees.

Q: Critical Values & BP Parameters

A: RN reviews lab results on a daily basis. During the health education appt., the health educator has parameters for BP.

Q: Can WFH send lab results to my PCP, if I would like them to?

A: No, we will not forward results on to your PCP. You are more than welcome to share your results with them.

Q: What if I am pregnant; should I wait to have the lab work complete?

A: The lab work may be abnormal because of your pregnancy. Please let the health educator know that you are pregnant and they will discuss this with you and how it might affect your data.

Q: Is there a cost for this service?

A: No. All services are free of charge to the employee/spouse.

Q: What happens to my personal data after my health assessment?

A: All personal health data is kept confidential by Workforce Health. Your online questionnaire is private and confidential and only revealed to you and the Workforce Health educator you met with. Your data will only be used in aggregate reports to help assess the company's overall health and wellness and will never be tied to your name.

Q: For how long will my information be maintained?

A: Indefinitely. We do not destroy records on server. This is important if a company goes through the wellness program, takes a year off and wants to start up again- we need the information for trends and historical information. Records are not purged and maintained on the secure server. This info will also help with future programming and planning.

Q: Is this part of my health insurance coverage and will my insurance company be able to view my results?

No. Froedtert Health Workforce Health is a third-party partnering with the City of Milwaukee to offer complete and CONFIDENTIAL employee wellness profiles for all health plan participants.

Q: If I have medical risks or a low online health questionnaire score will my insurance rates increase?

A: No. Individual results are not shared with your employer or your health insurance company.

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Q: What if I do not have a computer?

A: You will need to complete the online questionnaire and schedule your health assessment online.
The Milwaukee Public Libraries have computers that are available to the public.

Q: What if I can not find the website to do the online questionnaire?

A: You will need to type the web address <http://workforcehealth.org/cityofmilwaukee> in the URL address bar located near the upper left-hand corner. You are not able to get to this web address through Google or Yahoo. There is not a search engine through those portals.

Q: Where are the Health Education Appts. taking place?

A: The appts. are taking place at numerous onsite city locations, libraries and WI Athletic Clubs throughout the city based on the library hours and demands of employees. These sites will be posted on the COM website.

Q: What should I bring to my health assessment session?

A: Please bring your User Name and Password to access your online questionnaire at your appt.

Q: Are dependent children included in the Health Assessments?

A: No, they are not included; no matter what the age.

Q: Are retiring city employees required to complete the assessment?

A: No, they are not required and this will not impact their premium. If they would like to take the assessment, they are welcome to.

Q: How long is the COM going to continue these Health Assessments?

A: For at least the next 2 years so, they can see trending patterns.

Q: What are the credentials of the staff providing the health education?

A: Exercise Physiologists, RN's, RD, Bachelors in Community Education. "Seasoned" staff.
Initial assessment will be provided by one of these four. If you would like follow-up, you can request which staff you would like to follow-up with.

Q: If it is suggested to the participant to follow-up with PCP, does the participant have to report back this info to WFH in order to receive ins. discount?

A: No follow-up needed with WFH staff.

Tobacco Use:

In reality, it doesn't matter if you smoke cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, or spit (chew) tobacco. Tobacco can be burned in a cigarette, pipe or cigar releasing nicotine which is inhaled into the lungs where it is absorbed into the blood from the abundant alveolar capillary bed. Sucking or chewing a pinch of snuff releases nicotine into the saliva where it may be swallowed or directly absorbed through the mucous membranes. In either case, you can detect nicotine or cotinine (nicotine metabolite) in active users.

Q: Can second-hand smoke be detected through blood work?

A: Second hand smoke will be detected by a positive Cotinine and negative Nicotine result. This result is based on how long the person has had exposure to second hand smoke.



Q: Will the blood work detect an electronic cigarette?

A: As long as the electronic cigarette contains nicotine in the vaporized solution, which most do, the test will pick up the nicotine and Cotinine (nicotine metabolite). It is just a different vehicle or delivery system compared to a traditional cigarette (tobacco-related product). However, there are e-cigarettes which don't contain nicotine only flavorings...these would not be detected.

Q: If an employee takes the 90-minute class on tobacco cessation, how is that reported to the City? Is it reported as “eligible” or “smoker and eligible”? Employees feel that if they take the class they should not be registered as a smoker with the City.

A: The participants are identified as a tobacco user who took a 90-minute class so; they do not pay the higher premium. Taking the 90-minute class does not make them a non-tobacco user.

Spousal Information

Q: Does my spouse have to complete the online questionnaire, also?

A: Yes. The spouse needs to complete the entire health assessment process (online questionnaire, lab work and health education appointment) for the insurance premium discount.

Q: If my husband has his own primary insurance, but he uses the city insurance as his secondary insurance. Does he have to take the health assessment?

A: The health assessment is voluntary, but if he chooses not to take it and he is covered on her insurance, her cost will change. If he does not use the City health insurance or does not need the secondary coverage of the City, he/she can waive or go to single and then there would be no impact if he did not take it.

Q: What if my spouse is in advanced stage of disease, do they need to take HRA?

A: The participant will need to provide Workforce Health with a medical release from physician. You will receive the discount. City of Milwaukee will waive people on a case by case basis.